

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00
NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 AF-08 IO-13
/079 W

-----100300Z 089014 /63

R 091538Z MAR 77
FM AMEMBASSY LISBON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0476
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MADRID
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMCONSUL OPORTO
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMCONSUL PONTA DELGADA
USMISSION NATO
DIA WASHDC
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

C O N F I D E N T I A L LISBON 1879

E.O. 11652: XGDS-2
TAGS: PINT SREF PO
SUBJECT: POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS: POLICE CLASH WITH RETURNEES

REFS: A) 76 LISBON A-351 (DATED 12/17/76), B) LISBON
A-72 (DATED 3/4/77)

SUMMARY: RIOT POLICE CLASHED WITH A MAR 8 DEMONSTRATION
OF RETURNEES IN FRONT OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY. THE
FAR RIGHT INTER-ORGANIZATION OF REFUGEES HAD CALLED THE
DEMONSTRATION TO SUPPORT INDEPENDENT DEPUTY GEN GALVAO
DE MELO. THE INVOLVEMENT OF GALVAO DE MELO, A LEADER
LOOKING FOR A FOLLOWING, IS WORRISOME TO PORTUGUESE AUTH-
ORITIES. THE DECISION TO MOVE RIOT POLICE IN QUICKLY
WAS A WARNING TO RIGHT-WING ACTIVISTS, WHOSE DESTABILIZING
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EFFORTS HAVE COMPLEMENTED COMMUNISTS EFFORTS ON THE LEFT.
END SUMMARY.

1. RETURNEES DEMONSTRATE: A MAR 8 DEMONSTRATION OF
1,000 RETURNEES ORGANIZED BY THE FAR RIGHT INTER-
ORGANIZATION OF REFUGEES (IOR) RESULTED IN SCUFFLES
AND MINOR INJURIES WHEN THE RIOT POLICE CHARGED

RETURNEES REFUSING TO KEEP THEIR DISTANCE FROM THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY. IOR ORGANIZED THE DEMONSTRATION IN SUPPORT OF DEPUTY (GEN) CARLOS GALVAO DE MELO, AN INDEPENDENT WHO RAN ON CDS LIST. GALVAO DE MELO ACCEPTED IOR SUPPORT AT A RALLY OF RETURNEES IN LISBON MAR 5 (SEPAIR), AND IN RECENT WEEKS HAS GIVEN THREE ASSEMBLY SPEECHES DEMANDING GOVERNMENT ACTION TO FREE PORTUGUESE CITIZENS IMPRISONED IN THE FORMER COLONIES. HE HAS ATTACKED MELO ANTUNES, VITOR CRESPO AND FORMER PRESIDENT COSTA GOMES FOR PERPETRATING THE "TREASON" OF DECOLONIZATION.

2. BOMBS: ON THE EVENING OF MAR 8-9 SMALL BOMBS EXPLODED AT A COOPERATIVE THEATER AND NEAR THE RITZ HOTEL IN LISBON. THERE WERE NO INJURIES AND NO INDICATION AS TO WHO WAS RESPONSIBLE.

3. COMMENT: IOR AND ITS LEADERS ARE WELL AND UNFAVORABLY KNOWN TO EMBASSY OFFICERS (REF A). IOR SECRETARY-GENERAL JOAO SEREJO CLAIMS CREDIT FOR HAVING SACKED THE "HOUSE OF ANGOLA" IN LISBON LAST YEAR; HE AND OTHER IOR LEADERS CALL FOR "PORTUGUESE LIBERATION OF ANGOLA AND MOZAMBIQUE." SEREJO ANNOUNCED MAR 5 HIS PLANS TO TURN IOR INTO A NATIONAL MOVEMENT OF REFUGEES WITH GALVAO DE MELO AS PRESIDENT. DESPITE SEREJO'S BOMBASTIC STYLE, IOR AND OTHER REFUGEE ORGANIZATIONS HAVE THUS FAR SHOWN LITTLE CAPACITY FOR POLITICAL ACTION. THE INVOLVEMENT OF GALVAO DE MELO, A LEADER LOOKING

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FOR A FOLLOWING, IS WORRISOME TO PORTUGUESE AUTHORITIES (REF B). THE DECISION TO MOVE RIOT POLICE IN QUICKLY WAS A WARNING TO RIGHT-WING ACTIVISTS, WHOSE DE-STABILIZING EFFORTS HAVE COMPLEMENTED COMMUNIST EFFORTS ON THE LEFT.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PUBLIC DEMONSTRATIONS, REPATRIATION, CIVIL DISORDERS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 09-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: X2
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770081-1008
Format: TEL
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
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TAGS: PINT, SREF, PO, (DE MELO, GALVAO)
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